#### Applicant Compliance Requirements

Professional Procurement &

Citizen Participation

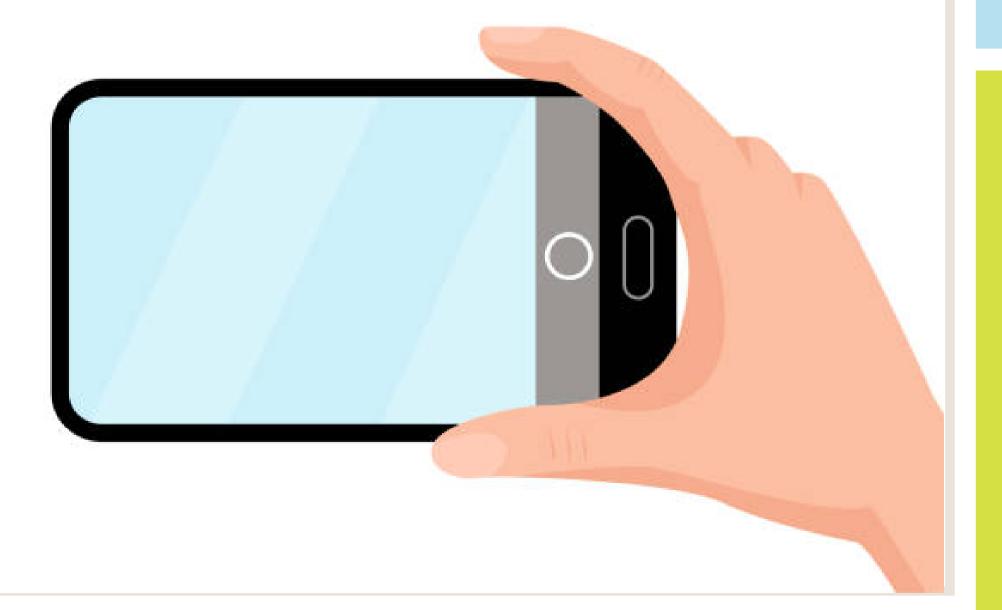


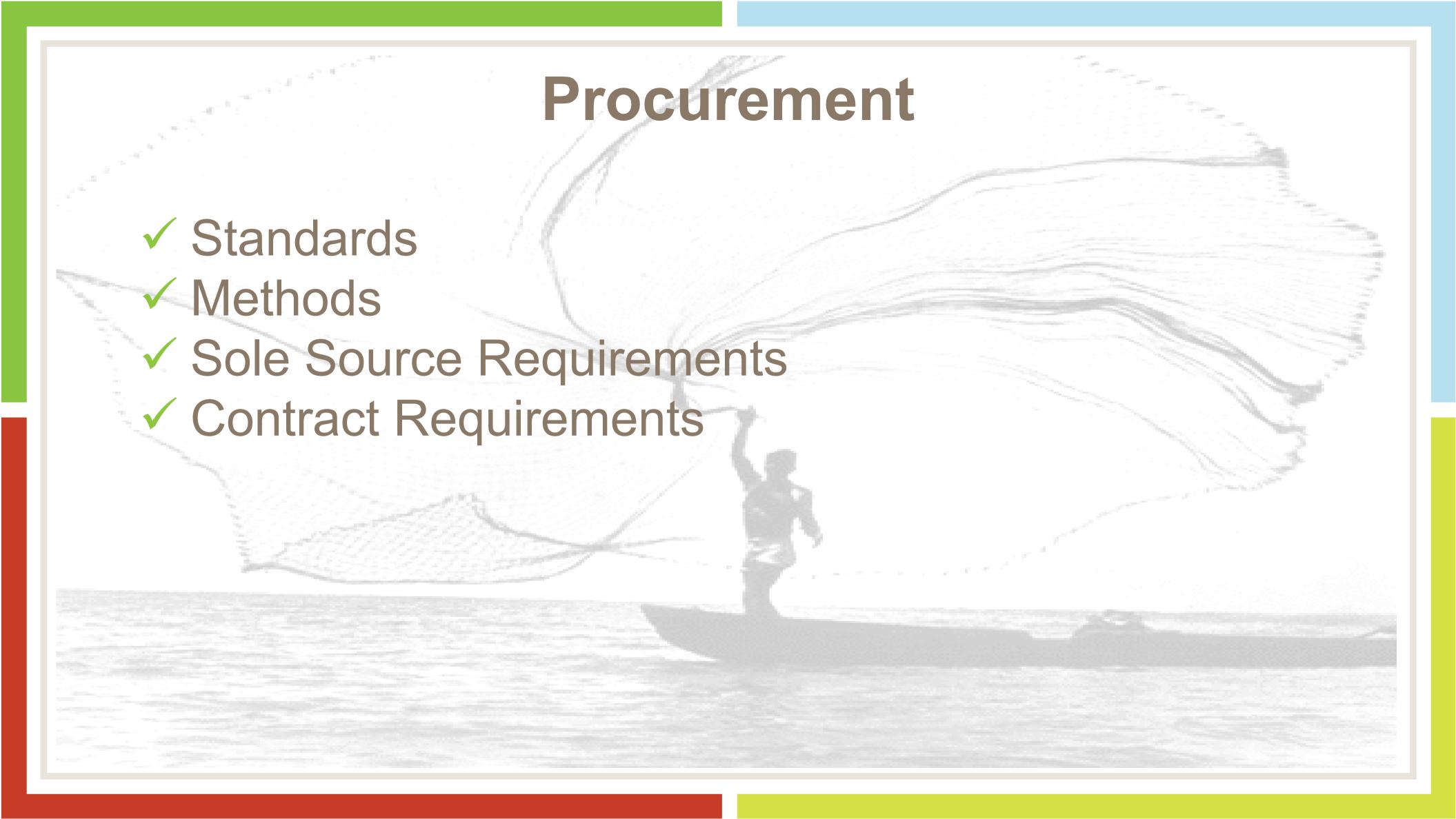
Brittney Hickom, Compliance Officer 2024 CDBG Annual Competition



## Please, get your device ready.....

Menti.com enter code 9361 111





#### Procurement Standards

DCA's procurement policies and procedures implement the requirements of 24 CFR 570.489 (g), which says the State shall establish requirements for procurement policies and procedures for units of general local government, based on full and open competition.

- Identification of Methods of Procurement and their applicability
- Prohibition of cost plus a percentage of cost & percentage of construction costs methods of contracting
- Assurance that all purchase orders and contracts include any clauses required by Federal statutes, Executive orders, and implementing regulations
- Subrecipient and contractor determinations shall be made in accordance with the standards in 2 CFR 200.330.

## Procurement transactions will be provided in a manner providing full & open competition

#### Avoid:

- Vullet Value of the second of the second
- Noncompetitive pricing practices
- Noncompetitive awards to consultants that are on retainer contracts
- \* Organizational conflicts of interest
- Specifying only a brand name product
- \* Any arbitrary action in the procurement process



## **Procurement Standards**

#### Documented Conflict of Interest Policy, which states:

No employee, officer, or agent...

"May participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by a Federal award if a real or apparent conflict of interest is present."

#### **Prohibited Conflicts**

Persons with CDBG responsibilities, decision-making power or information may **NOT**:

- > Obtain a financial interest or benefit from CDBG activity
- > Have any interest in contract or subcontract
  - Applies to family members and business ties
  - Applies during tenure and 1 year after

Example: Grant Administrator cannot assist grantee with drafting statements of work or RFPs for grant administration if they intend to submit proposal.

May explain process, discuss instructions/process publicly available on DCA website

#### Standards - Selection Procedures

- ✓ Accurate description of the technical requirements for material, product, or service without restricting competition
- Clear requirements and evaluation factors
- ✓ The review of proposed procurement actions by Recipient officials to avoid purchasing unnecessary or duplicative items.
- ✓ A cost or price analysis for every procurement action
- ✓ Consideration of contractor integrity, compliance with public policy, record of past performance, and financial and technical resources in the selection process

### Methods of Procurement

- Small purchase: Procurements under \$100,000 (if allowed by local policy).
  - Require that price or rate quotations be obtained at least three (3) sources.
  - Not appropriate for procurement of administrative or professional services
- Competitive Proposals: Professional Services
- Competitive Sealed Bids: Public Works
   Construction
- Sole Source: Requires DCA Approval
  - The item or service is available from only one source;
  - Urgent public need will not allow for the delay caused by advertising;
  - Although a number of bids were solicited, only one response was received.

Mentimeter

Join at menti.com use code 9361111

# Which of the following does not require the competitive negotiation or competitive proposal method for procurement?

0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Grant Writing	Regional	Administrative	Engineering	Architect
Firms	Commissions	Services	Firms	Services

### Procurement – Competitive Negotiation

□CDBG payments for Professional services are subject to the "competitive negotiation" requirements of <u>24 CFR 570.489 (g)</u>.

- ☐ Private grant writers/administrators
- Engineers and Architects
- ■Not applicable if contracting with Regional Commissions

### Competitive Negotiation

## Avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest:

- •Prior to application submission, both grant application services and grant administration services should be solicited using the same Request for Proposal (RFP).
- •For Engineering/Architectural services, preliminary reports and design and construction services should all be procured upfront using the appropriate RFP or Request for Qualification (RFQ) process.

- 1) Establish or appoint a local Selection Review Committee
- 2) Determine the Selection Criteria
  - Prepare a Ratings Criteria Score Sheet
- 3) Develop the Request for Proposals (RFP) Package
  - May choose Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for engineering/ architectural services
  - Include the evaluation factors, level of importance, deadlines, and contact information.

- 4) Publicize the RFP or RFQ.
  - Allow 30 days for responses.
  - If equal to or greater than \$100,000 place on Georgia's Procurement Registry, (HB 322)

- 5) Distribute the RFP or RFQ to known providers
  - Consultants/Administrators sent to at least seven (7) known providers.
  - Engineering/architectural sent to at least ten (10) know providers.
  - Email delivery use Request Delivery Receipt & Request Read Receipt
  - Mail delivery send Certified Return Receipt

- 6) Review & Rate Proposals
  - Give priority, to the greatest extent feasible, to Section 3 businesses, if you have chosen to advertise for them.
- 7) Approve the Selection
  - Consult city or county attorney about recommendation and proposed contract
  - Based upon established reasons and attorney's recommendation, obtain full council/commission approval and execute contract.
  - Notify unsuccessful applicants in writing

- 8) Maintain Complete Records
  - RFP
  - Proof of Publication
  - Proof of Distribution
  - Copies of Proposals Received
  - Scoring Sheets
  - Meeting Minutes Council/Board Approval
  - Executed Contracts

Statements of qualifications and proposals are being requested from engineering/architectural firms with a strong record in successfully assisting local governments with the implementation of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) programs. Responding firms should be technically qualified and licensed in the State of Georgia to provide these services.

Plans are to contract for engineering/architectural preliminary design services required for a potential FY20\_\_\_CDBG project and, if funded, for engineering/architectural services for the implementation of the project. The purpose of the project is to provide TYPE OF IMPROVEMENTS.

Information which should be submitted for our evaluation is as follows:

- 1) History of firm and resources
- 2) CDBG/EIP/RDF experience, including other DCA grant programs
- 3) Key personnel/qualifications
- 4) Current workload
- 5) Scope and level of service proposed
- 6) Experience with similar projects and list of references
- 7) Fees and/or Percentages (if any) associated with the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) for the application, and Design and Construction Management Services, if the project is funded. The draft PER would be needed no later than
- 8) Errors and Omissions Insurance
- 9) Statement of Qualifications Form
- 10) Section 3 Certification Form (Only Submit with your Proposal if you are claiming Section 3 Status.)

All contracts are subject to Federal and State contract provisions prescribed by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. This project is covered under the requirements of Section 3 of the HUD Act of 1968, as amended and Section 3 Business Concerns are encouraged to apply.

CITY/COUNTY also abides by the following laws as they pertain to HUD Assisted Projects: Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Section 109 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, Title 1; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (Fair Housing Act); Section 104(b)(2) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended; Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA); and the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968.

Interested parties should request copies of the Statement of Qualifications Form and Section 3 Solicitation Package prior to preparing and submitting their proposal. Proposals should be received no later than 5:00 PM on [30 DAYS AFTER PUBLICATION]. Proposals received after the above date and time may not be considered. We reserve the right to accept or reject any and all proposals and to waive informalities in the proposal process. Questions, Statement of Qualifications and Section 3 Certification form requests (i.e., request for Section 3 preference), and proposal packages should be submitted to the name and address listed below:

CLIENT CONTACT

CLIENT

ADDRESS

Phone:

Email:



#### Appe Sample Email Red

Copy and paste the "email" below, inclused to your selected Engineering/Arch Request for Delivery Receipt and Request attach the Statement of Qualifications Foto your email.

\*\*\*<u>Subject</u>: PLEASE RESPOND: CITY/COUNT GRANT SERVICES -

.

FROM: CITY/COUNTY, Georgia

RE: CITY/COUNTY Solicitation Package FY20\_ CDBG/EIP/RDF

PLEASE REPLY TO THIS EMAIL to let us know submitting a proposal.

Thank you,

CITY/COUNTY CONTACT CITY/COUNTY NAME

> CITY/I REQUEST FO ENGINEERING AND/OR ARCH

Date: DATE

Statements of qualifications and proposals are being a strong record in successfully assisting local govelopment Block Grant (CDBG) programs. Relicensed in the State of Georgia to provide these see

Plans are to contract for engineering/architectural siffunded. The purpose of the project is to provide

Information which should be submitted for our

- 1) History of firm and resources
- CDBG/EIP/RDF experience, including oth
- 3) Key personnel/qualifications
- 4) Current workload
- 5) Scope and level of service proposed
- 6) Experience with similar projects and list
- Fees and/or Percentages (if any) association for the application, and Design and Corfunded. The draft PER would be needed
- 8) Errors and Omissions Insurance

#### Statement of Qualification: Section 3 Certification Form

All contracts are subject to Federal of Community Affairs. This project is as amended and Section 3 Busines

CITY/COUNTY also abides by the to Civil Rights Act of 1964; Section 1968 (Fair Housing Act); Section 1968 (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act 1990 (ADA); and the Architectural

Interested parties should request copic prior to preparing and submitting their parties PUBLICATION]. Proposals in the right to accept or reject any and a Statement of Qualifications and Section to the name and address listed below:

CITY/COUNTY CONTACT
CITY/COUNTY
ADDRESS
Phone: / Email:

#### Engineer Sample State

NAME OF FIRM: \_\_\_\_\_\_

- Years in Business in Present Form:
- Firms History and Resource Capability to
- Titles, Names, and Addresses of all Office

- List categories in which firm is legally qui where applicable.
- Does your firm carry Errors and Omissio
- If you were awarded the design, bid phase
- Does your firm charge for the preliminary
   If yes, what would the charge be? \$\_\_\_\_\_
   Can your firm meet the draft PER deadli
- List up to five (5) projects which demor name, location, owner, year, contract an

	1	_
	2	
		-
	3	-
	4	-
	5	_
9.	List key personnel (with qualifications) likely to be involved on these projects a specific role in CDBG work.	and explain their
		-
10.	List three (3) references for the Firm.	-
	1	-
	2	_
	3	_
11.	Are you a Section 3 Business Concern? Yes No	
	If yes, the Attached Section 3 Business Concern Certification, Previous Certific	ation and Action
	Plan must be filled out, signed, notarized, and submitted with your proposal.	
	Is the signed and notarized Section 3 Business Concern Certification, Prev	ious Certification
	and Action Plan attached to your proposal? Yes	
	If no, you will only need to submit the Section 3 forms if you are the successful pr	roposer.
12.	Certifying that:	
	Mr./Mrs./Ms (signature) being duly sworn de	ooses and states

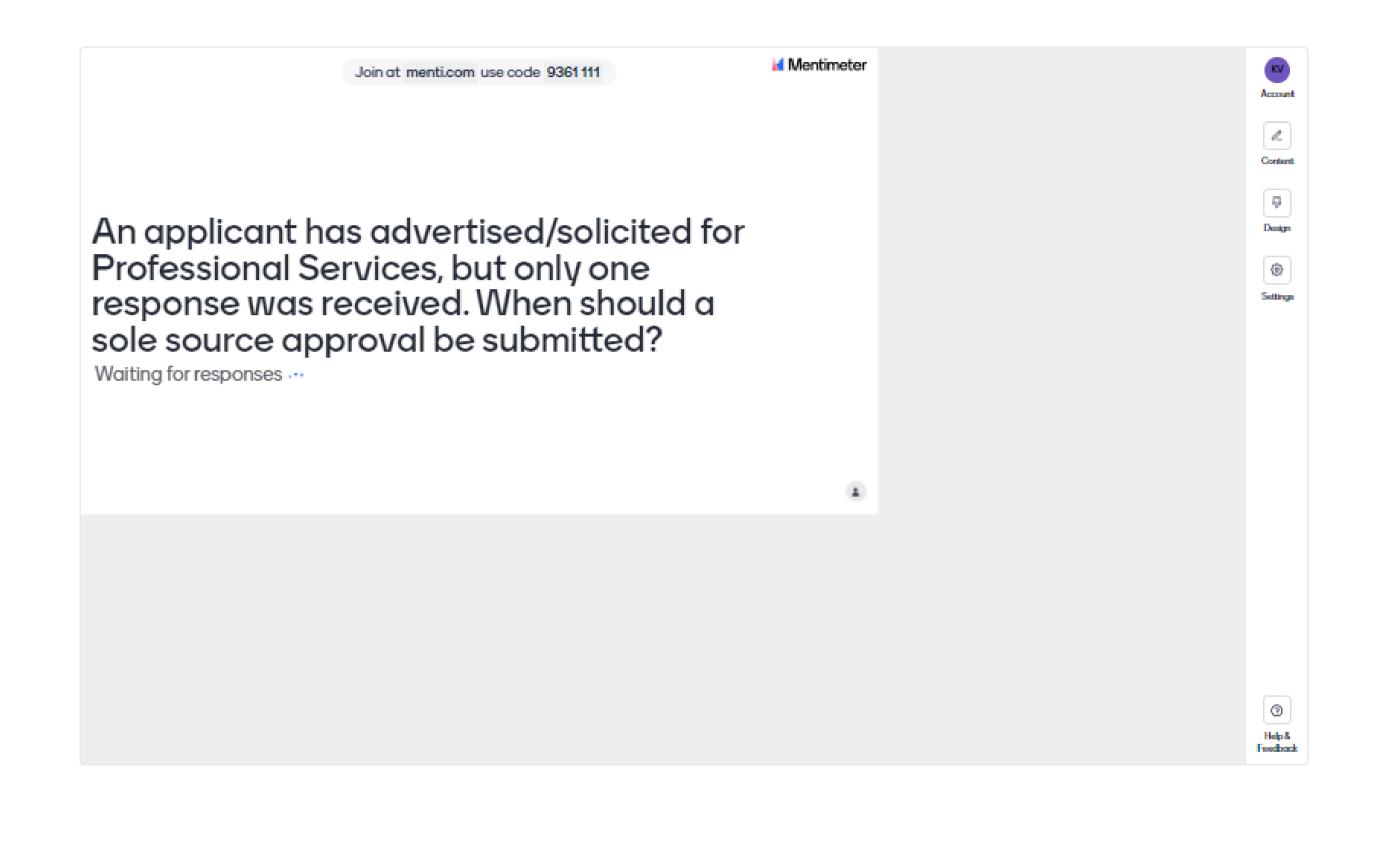
of \_\_\_\_\_\_ (name of firm) and that answers to the foregoing

that he/she is the \_\_\_\_\_

questions and all statements herein contained are true and correct.

NT	TACT:				
ME	OF FIRM:				
MS	ADDRESS:				
	ate the Architectural and/or Engineering Firm ba	ased on t	he points	assigned to eac	h of the follow
	UIT GIRCITOIT	<u> </u>	CIRCLE F	OINTS	[
	CRITERION	POOR	GOOD	EXCELLENT	POINTS ASSIGNED
1.	Ability to provide the disciplines necessary for this project.	0	1	2	
2.	Firm's experience with this type of construction.	0	1	2	
3.	Key personnel experience with this type of construction	0	1	2	
4.	Quality of reference information.	0	1	2	
5.	Has Firm had experience with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) projects?	0	1	2	
6.	Is price competitive?	0	1	2	
			Т	TOTAL POINTS	
n c	can meet PER/PAR deadline?	Y6	es	_ No	
n c	carries Errors and Omissions insurance?	Y6	es	_ No	
DMI	MENTS ON WHY FIRM SHOULD BE SELECTED:				
ME	<u> </u>				

NAME	DATE SENT	RECEIVED	SCORE/COMMENTS
	10/02/2019	YES	65
	10/02/2019	NO	
	10/02/2019	NO	
	10/02/2019	NO	
	10/02/2019	YES	70
	10/02/2019	NO	
	10/02/2019	YES	67
	10/02/2019	YES	72 Selected as Project Architect
	GA Procurement Registry Request	NO	



## Sole Source Requests

- Chief Elected Official request letter
- Description of Procurement Methodology
- Tear Sheet of the Bid Advertisement or RFPs/RFQs (proof of posting in 3 locations)
- Local Government's Attorney Opinion
- Professional Services Procurement
  - list of the active, qualified consultants or engineers / architects that were mailed the RFPs/RFQs (7 for grant administrators and 10 for engineers/architects)
  - certified return receipt documentation or adequate email documentation

This approval must be received prior to the application deadline.

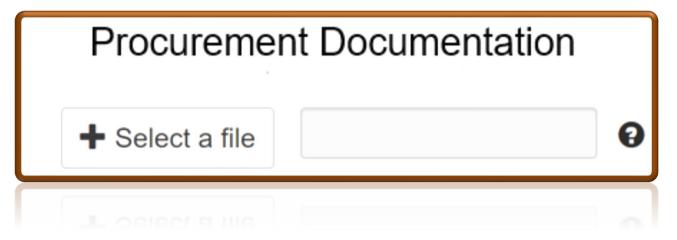
#### Procurement – Other Considerations

Unsuccessful grant applicants from the previous year can use same grant administrator and engineer or architect:

- Must be for previous application cycle
- Any older procurements will not be valid, and a new advertisement and solicitation of RFPs is required
- > Followed acceptable procurement process

#### Documenting Procurement

- Copy of the advertisement
- Georgia Procurement Registry evidence, if applicable
- Summary of all Request for Qualification/Proposal responses
- Award & Contract Documents
  - Include local government meeting minutes approving committee recommendation



Sole Source requests must be received prior to Application deadline.

## Common Mistakes



- ➤ Did not allow at least 30 days for responses
- ➤ Did not retain proof of solicitation delivery (read receipts) or a memorandum of the process
- ➤ Meeting minutes indicated the highest scored respondent was not selected without explanation
- Sole Source approval was not obtained prior to application submission

### Important!

#### Build America, Buy America (BABA):

The Build America, Buy America Act, enacted as part of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act on November 15, 2021, established a domestic content procurement preference for all Federal financial assistance obligated for infrastructure projects after May 14, 2022. The domestic content procurement preference requires that all iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials used in covered infrastructure projects are produced in the United States (Buy America Preference).

## Phased Implementation

- ➤ BAP now applies to:
  - ➤ Infrastructure 2023 CDBG Projects containing iron and steel with a costs greater than \$250K
  - > Will apply to specifically listed construction materials with FY2024 Appropriations
- >BAP does **not** apply to:
  - Non-infrastructure funding.
  - ➤ Infrastructure projects that do not contain steel
  - ➤ Infrastructure projects with a total costs of \$250K or less
  - ➤ CDBG-DR, CDBG-MIT, CDBG -CV projects
  - > Projects qualifying under another HUD general waiver

#### **HUD Construction Materials Groups**

HUD's waiver breaks construction materials into two groups for the purposes of HUD's phased implementation: "specifically listed" and "all other construction materials."

- Iron & Steel 2023 Awards and beyond
- Specifically Listed 2024 Awards
  - Metals other than iron or steel (nonferrous metals)
  - Lumber
  - Composite building materials
  - Plastic and polymer-based pipe and tube (e.g., PVC pipe)

- All Other Construction Materials
  - Glass
  - Drywall
  - Other construction materials
- Manufactured Products
  - A material or supply used in an infrastructure project that is not iron or steel or a construction material.

BAP will apply to	Iron and Steel	Specifically Listed Construction Materials	All Other Construction Materials	Manufactured Products
CDBG Formula Grants	All funds obligated on or after November 15, 2022	As of the date HUD obligates new FFA from FY24 appropriations	As of the date HUD obligates new FFA from FY25 appropriations	As of the date HUD obligates new FFA from FY25 appropriations

## BABA's Impact

#### **Pre-award considerations**

- Availability of products covered by the Buy America Preference (BAP)
- Cost of products covered by the Buy America Preference (BAP)
  - Impact on PER/PAR cost estimates

#### **Post-Award Considerations**

- Documenting products county of origin
- Bid Requirements Advertising, Instructions, Bid Forms
- Contract Requirements
  - Architect/ Engineer obtaining and maintaining all BABA documentation (particularly manufacturers' certifications) during construction, which shall be transferred to the recipient.
  - Construction Contract Clause

## Resources

•CDBG Manuals & Local Government Officials' Handbook: <a href="https://www.dca.ga.gov/node/2341/documents/2254">https://www.dca.ga.gov/node/2341/documents/2254</a>

•HB322:

https://gov.georgia.gov/document/signed-legislation/hb-322pdf/download

•DCA's Professional Procurement Instructional Materials: <a href="https://www.dca.ga.gov/node/3741/documents/10">https://www.dca.ga.gov/node/3741/documents/10</a>

•Ga Local Government Public Works Construction Law <a href="https://www.gacities.com/GMASite/media/PDF/publications/publicworks.pdf">https://www.gacities.com/GMASite/media/PDF/publications/publicworks.pdf</a> <a href="https://www.accg.org/docs/Constructioncontracts.pdf">https://www.accg.org/docs/Constructioncontracts.pdf</a>

•Build America, Buy America https://www.arc.gov/resource/buy-america-guidelines/

## Citizen Participation



### Public Hearings

Applicants must hold at least one public hearing to allow citizen participation, views, questions and input.

- Hearing should be held early in process to take citizen input into consideration
- Hearings held after application is prepared are not allowing citizen participation
- Include estimated amount of funds proposed
- Discuss plan to minimize displacement and assist any displaced persons
- •Sample hearing notices in Appendix of Applicants' Manual English & Spanish



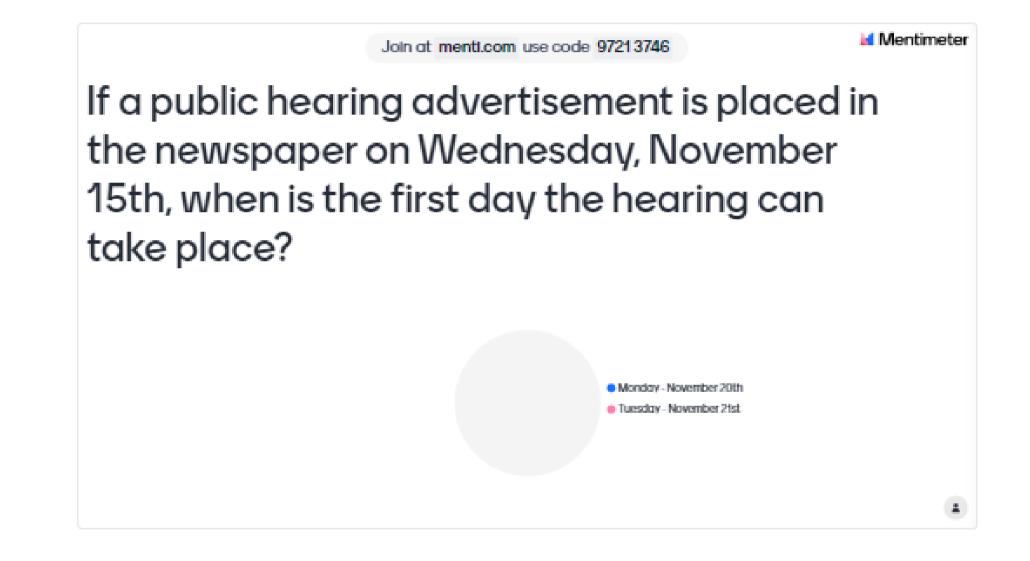
## Public Hearings

Notices must provide five (5) full days notice prior to hearing

- 1<sup>st</sup> day begins on the day following the published notice
  - Monday Ad appears in newspaper
  - Tuesday Day 1
  - Wednesday Day 2
  - Thursday Day 3
  - Friday Day 4
  - Saturday Day 5
  - Sunday Hearing can take place today or any subsequent day

Placed in non-legal section of the general circulation local newspaper in block form





## Public Hearings

- Must be held at time and locations convenient to potential or actual beneficiaries with accommodation of the handicapped (notices should include information to accommodate special needs).
- Virtual Hearings must allow questions in real time, with answers coming directly from the elected representatives to all "attendees" (should be used as a supplement only).
- The needs of non-English speaking residents should be met in areas of significant concentration.
- Must maintain evidence of compliance.
- Certified minutes must be kept.



### Bonus Points - Robust Citizen Participation

Extra efforts to provide an opportunity for citizens, especially LMI citizens, to participate in an advisory role in the planning, implementation, and assessment of the programs and projects funded through CDBG activities.

Water Bill Announcements Social Media Announcements Meeting times and frequency

Flyers - when, where, how often Informative / interactive webinars



#### Language Access Requirements

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and pursuant to EO 13166 requires meaningful access to information and services for Limited English Proficiency (LEP) persons.

- Persons who do not speak English as their primary language and who have a limited ability to read, write, speak, or understand English, and may be entitled to language assistance with respect to a particular type of service, benefit, or encounter.
- Noted as speaking English less than "very well" in America Community Survey (ACS) Data Table S1601: Language Spoken at Home

#### Language Access Requirements

The size of the language group determines the recommended provision for written language assistance:

Translate vital documents

• 1,000 or more in a single language or more than 5% of the eligible population or beneficiaries and more than 50 in number.

Translated written notice of right to receive free oral interpretation of documents.

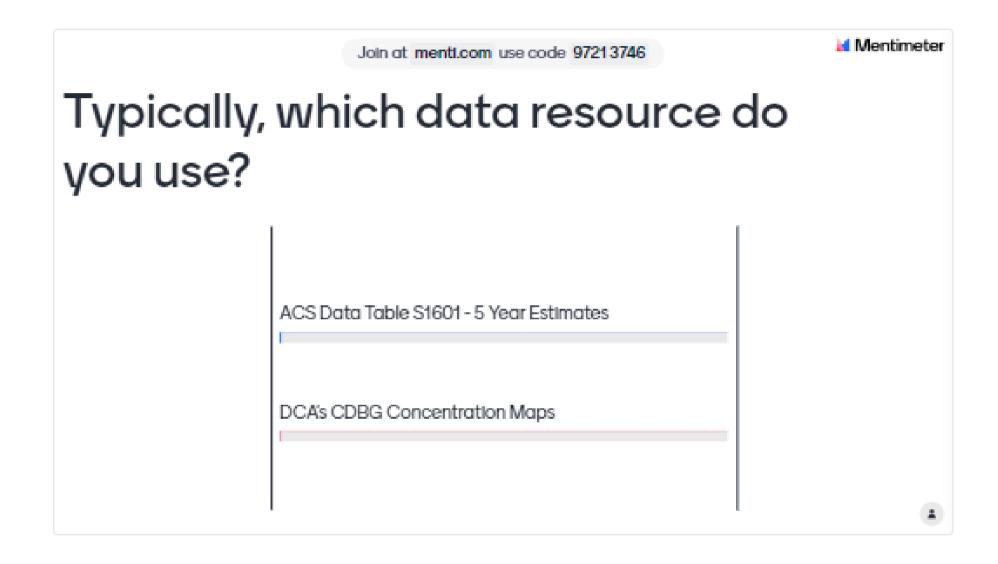
• More than 5% of the eligible population or beneficiaries and 50 or less in number

No written translation is required.

• 5% or less of the eligible population or beneficiaries and less than 1,000 in number

#### Meaningful Access - Data

- ✓ American Community Survey Data Table S1601 5-Year Estimates
  - Now hosted on <a href="https://data.census.gov/">https://data.census.gov/</a>
- **✓ DCA's CDBG Applicant Concentration Maps:** 
  - https://georgia-dca.maps.arcgis.com/home/index.html



#### 708 / 3,873 = .1828 x 100 = 18.28%

#### LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME

Survey/Program: American Community Survey TableID: S1601 Product: 2019: ACS 5-Year Estimates Subject Tables ➤

Selections 1 Geo Years Topics Surveys Codes 

→ Filter

★ Margin of Error







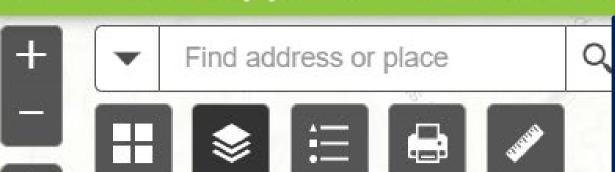




	凹
	Мар

	ornelia city, Georgia					
	otal		Percent of specified language spec	akers		
			Speak English l <mark>ess than "very well"</mark>		Percent speak English less than "ve	ery well"
Label	Estimate	Margin of Error	Estimate	Margin of Error	Estimate	Margin of Error
➤ Population 5 years and over	3,873	±128	823	±337	21.2%	±8.8
Speak only English	2,478	±483	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Speak a language other than English	1,395	±441	823	±337	59.0%	±12.6
➤ SPEAK A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH						
✓ Spanish	1,086	±453	708	±344	65.2 <mark>%</mark>	±13.0
5 to 17 years old	421	±248	187	±159	44.4%	±26.7
18 to 64 years old	665	±270	521	±230	78.3%	±14.8
65 years old and over	0	±13	0	±13	-	**
✓ Other Indo-European languages	8	±16	0	±13	0.0%	±100.0
5 to 17 years old	0	±13	0	±13	-	**

#### CDBG Applicant Concentration 2021



#### Layers

#### Layers

Block Groups 2021

Low to Moderate Income 519

Housing Facility Deficiency 89

Minority Concentration 51%-

City Language Spoken 2021

County Language Spoken 20

Counties

Size of Language Group	Recommended Provision of Written Language Assistance
1,000 or more in the eligible population	Translated vital documents
More than 5% of the eligible population or	Translated vital documents
More than 5% of the eligible population of	Translated written notice of right to receive
beneficiaries and 50 or less in number	free oral interpretation of documents.
5% or less of the eligible population or	No written translation is required.
beneficiaries and less than 1,000 in number	

Note: In the case where the overall jurisdiction numbers fall below the threshold to provide translated written documents but existing or planned DCA target areas exist, the DCA Sub recipient must evaluate whether there are limited English proficient households within the target areas that may need notification or other LAP services. The Sub recipient's evaluation should use local knowledge or data or other relevant data in conducting its evaluation and should indicate its conclusions regarding the steps necessary reach out to these households in the language they speak to ensure that adequate notification is achieved. This evaluation will be particularly important for housing grants where eligible applicants for assistance may need application or other documents translated to take advantage of available services.







#### CDBG Application:

## Required Documentation & Common Mistakes

#### **Required Documentation**

- Acknowledgement form
- Threshold certification form
- Notice Tear Sheet
- Table S1601

#### **Common Mistakes**

- Incorrect hearing date is published
- Not published in English and Spanish
- Threshold for translation is incorrectly determined

#### Resources

Language Access Plan Template for CDBG & DCA's Sub-Recipient Language Access Plan Template Guidance for CDBG

• https://www.dca.ga.gov/node/3858

## Thanks!

**Brittney Hickom** 

Compliance Officer

Brittney.Hickom@dca.ga.gov

Direct: 470-698-8166

dca.ga.gov